

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Novel derivatives of cell surface proteins which are homologous to the immunoglobulin superfamily (adhesons) are provided. Amino acid sequence variations are introduced into the adheson, the most noteworthy of which are those in which the transmembrane and, preferably, cytoplasmic domains are rendered functionally inactive, and in which adheson extracellular domains replace an immunoglobulin variable region. These variants are useful in therapy or
10 diagnostics, in particular, CD4 variants are therapeutically useful in the treatment of HIV infections.